

INSTRUCTION MANUAL



CS526 ISFET pH Probe

2/12



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CS526 ISFET pH Probe

1. Introduction

The CS526 ISFET pH Probe measures pH from 0 to 14 in aqueous or semi-solid solutions. It outputs TTL serial data that is read by compatible dataloggers (see Section 6 Specifications).

Before using the CS526, please study

- Section 2. Cautionary Statements
- Section 3. Initial Inspection
- Section 4. Quickstart

More detailed instructions for operation, troubleshooting, and maintenance are available in the remaining sections.

2. Cautionary Statements

- Maximum input voltage is 5 Vdc. Incorrect wiring may cause loss of performance and irreversible damage.
- To prevent scratching the sensor chip when cleaning, first soak the sensor in soapy water, then gently scrub with a toothbrush (see Section 11. Maintenance). Most scratches occur when hard particles are rubbed on the chip surface. Scratches cause irreversible damage to the probe.
- The CS526 is rugged, but it should be handled as a precision scientific instrument.
- The CS526 has no user-serviceable parts. Any attempt to disassemble the device will void the six-month warranty.
- Care should be taken when opening the shipping package to not damage or cut the cable jacket. If damage to the cable is suspected, consult with a Campbell Scientific applications engineer.

3. Initial Inspection

Upon receipt of the CS526, inspect the packaging and contents for damage. File damage claims with the shipping company.

The model number and cable length are printed on a label at the connection end of the cable. Check this information against the shipping documents to ensure the correct product and cable length are received.

4. Quickstart

For complete installation, programming, and calibration information, see Sections 7 through 9.

The CS526 is shipped dry. Before the probe can be calibrated, it must be soaked in 7 pH buffer solution for 15 minutes. Follow the calibration procedure outlined in Appendix A.

Unlike many glass-bulb type pH sensors, the CS526 ISFET pH probe can be installed without regard to orientation. Connect the CS526 to the datalogger according to the following table. **Be sure to connect Red to the 5V channel.**

| Wire Color | Datalogger Connection |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Red (Caution! 5 Vdc Max!) | 5V |
| Black | G |
| White | Control Port (Tx) |
| Green | Control Port (Rx) |
| Clear | G |

Program the datalogger as follows.

```
'CR1000 Series Datalogger

'Declare variable for PH measurement in mV
Public pHmV

'Declare variables for serial input from sensor
Dim rawstring As String * 20, pHDigit(2)

'Main Program
BeginProg

    'Set up one of the datalogger's ports for serial communication
    SerialOpen ( Com1,2400,16,0,41)

    'Establish program scan rate of 60 seconds
    Scan (60,Sec,0,0)

        'Send get data command to CS526
        SerialOut (Com1,"1M1!"&CHR(13),"",0,0)

        'Set up COM1 to receive incoming serial data.
        'Set timeout to maximum 200mS
        SerialIn (rawstring,Com1,20,0,20)

        'Split out numeric mV value for PH from string input
        SplitStr (pHDigit(),rawstring,"String",2,0)

        pHmV = pHDigit(2)

    NextScan
EndProg
```


5. Overview

The submersible CS526 is designed to reliably provide accurate temperature compensated pH measurements. The pH-sensitive element is SENTRON's Ion Sensitive Field Effect Transistor (ISFET) semi-conductor, which includes a silver / silver chloride - potassium chloride reference system. This technology is the most significant breakthrough in pH testing in half a century and is the most powerful pH testing technology available today.

The CS526 is suitable for demanding applications in laboratory and field. The ISFET performs well in solutions with high solids, moderately aggressive chemicals, and biological materials. Clogging and junction contaminating conditions are well tolerated. See Section 11 Maintenance for cleaning procedures.

CS526 electronics are embedded in durable PEEK material, which makes up the sensor body. The absence of a glass electrode eliminates the potential hazard of broken glass. The ISFET design considerably reduces the number of acidic or alkaline errors in extreme pH conditions.

6. Specifications

Features

- Safety — the ISFET with durable PEEK material can be used safely in applications where broken glass is a hazard to the user.
- Intelligent electronics — the CS526 combines the latest developments in ISFET pH sensing technology with state-of-the-art signal processing. This allows for accurate, fast and reliable results.
- Quality — designed and manufactured under stringent quality control conditions in an ISO 9001 environment. Each sensor is individually tested to the most demanding testing protocols, and the electronics comply fully with **CE** directives and with EMC standard IEC61326:2005.

Compatibility: CR800 / 850, CR1000, CR3000 dataloggers

Measurement

Range: 1 to 14 pH

Accuracy: ± 0.2 pH with 2 point calibration

24 hr drift: < 0.15 pH (after 15 min soak in pH 7 at 25°C)

Operating

Temperature: 10° to 40°C

Water Pressure: 0 to 700 kPa (0 to 101.5 psi)

Storage Temperature: 20° to 30°C

Power Requirement

Source: 5 Vdc

Load: 15 mA maximum

Output:

TTL logic, 2400 bps

8 data bits, no parity, 1 stop bit

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Maximum Cable Length: | 100 m (328 ft) |
| Cable Type: | Three-twisted pair, 24 awg cable with Santoprene® jacket |
| Sensor Material: | PEEK |
| Weight | |
| w/10 ft Cable: | 318 g (11.2 oz) |
| Dimensions | |
| Length: | 102 mm (4 in) |
| Diameter: | 16 mm (0.63 in) |
| Certifications: | ISO 9001 CE compliant EMC standard IEC61326:2005 |

7. Installation and Wiring

7.1 Preparation for Use

The CS526 is shipped dry. Before the probe can be calibrated, soak it in 7 pH buffer solution for 15 minutes. Unlike many glass-bulb type pH sensors, the CS526 ISFET pH probe can be installed without regard to orientation.

7.2 Wiring

| TABLE 7-1. CR800, CR850, CR1000, and CR3000 Wiring | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|
| Wire Color | Wire Label/Function | Datalogger Connections |
| Red (see following caution) | Power 5V | 5V |
| Black | Ground | G |
| White | Signal #1 (Tx) | Control Port (Tx) |
| Green | Signal #2 (Rx) | Control Port (Rx) |
| Clear | Shield | G |

CAUTION

This probe must be connected to the datalogger's 5V terminal (**not** 12V). Connecting to a higher voltage will damage the probe beyond repair.

8. Programming

8.1 Get Data Command

The datalogger needs to send a “get data” serial command to the CS526 to get the pH data. This command is sent to the CS526 via the **SerialOut()** CRBasic

instruction (see Section 8.2.2.2). Table 8-1 shows the “get data” command and its response.

| TABLE 8-1. Get Data Command and Response | |
|---|--|
| Command | Response |
| aMn!<CR> Where: a = probe address (factory default is 1) n = a single dummy character (typically use 1) | a<value><CR><LF> Where: a = probe address (factory default is 1) <value> = the probe’s reading for pH (in millivolts). |

8.2 CRBasic Programming

8.2.1 Instruction Sequence

A sequence of CRBasic instructions are used to measure the sensor. Table 8-2 shows the instruction sequence. Information about the instructions is provided in Section 8.2.2 and an example program is provided in Section 8.2.3.

| TABLE 8-2. Instruction Sequence | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Instruction | Function |
| SerialOpen() | Set up a datalogger port for serial communication (see Section 8.2.2.1) |
| Scan() | Establish a scan rate |
| SerialOut() | Send “get data” command to the CS526. See Section 8.1 and 8.2.2.2 for more information. |
| SerialIn() | Set up the COM port to receive the incoming serial data (see Section 8.2.2.3). Please note that in the beginning of the CRBasic program, the variable used in the SerialIn instruction needs to be declared as an ASCII string format. |
| SplitStr() | Split out numeric millivolt value for pH from the input string. |

NOTE

Probe output is “Counts”. A corrected multiplier and offset are required to provide an output in pH units (see Appendix A).

8.2.2 Instruction Descriptions

8.2.2.1 SerialOpen() Instruction

The **SerialOpen()** instruction has the following syntax:

SerialOpen(ComPort,BaudRate,Format,TXDelay,BufferSize)

ComPort — the datalogger COM port to which the probe is connected.

BaudRate — choose 2400

Format — choose 16, which is TTL Logic; No parity, one stop bit, 8 data bits; No error checking

TXDelay — enter 0

BufferSize — enter at least twice the number of maximum expected characters + 1, which is 41.

8.2.2.2 SerialOut Instruction

The **SerialOut()** instruction has the following syntax:

SerialOut(ComPort,OutString,WaitString,NumberTries,TimeOut)

ComPort — the datalogger COM port in which the probe is connected.

OutString — use "1M1!" + CHR(13) for the OutString when the default probe address of 1 is used.

WaitString — enter the null ("") WaitString to tell the datalogger to wait for the echo of each character in the OutString

NumberTries — enter 0

TimeOut — specifies the time, in 0.01 seconds, that the datalogger should wait for the WaitString or echo of each character in the OutString (0 is used in the example program).

8.2.2.3 SerialIn Instruction

The **SerialIn()** instruction has the following syntax:

SerialIn(Dest,ComPort,TimeOut,TerminationChar,MaxNumChars)

Dest — specifies the variable in which the incoming data will be stored. Please note that in the beginning of the CRBasic program, this variable needs to be declared as ASCII string format (see example program in Section 8.2.3)

ComPort — the datalogger COM port in which the probe is connected.

TimeOut — 20 should be adequate, which gives a 200 ms maximum delay time. The TimeOut parameter is used to specify the amount of time, in 0.01 seconds, that the datalogger should wait before proceeding to the next instruction.

TerminationChar — enter 0

MaxNumChars — 20 should be adequate (specify the maximum number of characters to expect per input)

8.2.2.4 SplitStr Instruction

The **SplitStr()** instruction has the following syntax:

SplitStr(*SplitResult*,*SearchString*,*FilterString*,*NumSplit*,*SplitOption*)

SplitResult — an array in which the split string will be stored.

SearchString — the string on which this instruction will operate. This will be the variable entered for the Dest parameter for the SerialIn instruction (see above).

FilterString — enter “String” (this value will be ignored because of the SplitOption that will be used).

NumSplit — enter 2

SplitOption — enter 0. This splits out numeric values.

8.2.3 Example Program

The following is a CR1000 program that measures the CS526. This program assumes the CS526 is connected to COM1 (C1 / TX and C2 / RX) on the CR1000.

```
'CR1000 Series Datalogger
'Declare variable for PH measurement in mV
Public pHCount
'Declare variables for serial input from sensor
Dim rawstring As String * 20, pHDigit(2)

'Main Program
BeginProg
  'Set up one of the datalogger's ports for serial communication
  SerialOpen ( Com1,2400,16,0,41)
  'Establish program scan rate of 60 seconds
  Scan (60,Sec,0,0)
  'Send get data command to CS526
  SerialOut (Com1,"1M1!"&CHR(13),"",0,0)
  'Set up CR1000 COM1 to receive incoming serial data.
  'Set timeout to maximum 200 ms
  SerialIn (rawstring,Com1,20,0,20)
  'Split out numeric mV value for pH from string input
  SplitStr (pHDigit(),rawstring,"String",2,0)
  pHCount = pHDigit(2)

  NextScan
EndProg
```

8.2.4 Programming for Calibration

To output in pH units instead of millivolts, enter the offset and multiplier into the datalogger program. Simple program instructions can be used to make the required periodic calibration easier. See Appendix A for an example program.

9. Calibration

Calibration should be carried out according to the detailed procedure outlined in Appendix A. The calibration should utilize two or more pH standards, listed in Table 9-1, which are available from Campbell Scientific.

| TABLE 9-1. Calibration Standards | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| pH | CSI Part Number |
| 4 | 25587 |
| 7 | 25586 |
| 10 | 25588 |

Frequency of calibration depends on the level of accuracy required and the coating / fouling nature of the measured samples.

10. Troubleshooting

The most common causes for erroneous pH data include:

- poor sensor connections to the datalogger
- damaged cables
- scratched chip

Problem:

Output signal is at its maximum value.

Possible reason:

- Probe is not in fluid.
- Chip is polluted.
- Diaphragm is polluted.
- Chip is scratched.

Suggestion:

- Put probe in fluid.
- Clean probe using soapy water method.
- Probe cannot be fixed if chip is scratched.

Problem:

Probe response is very slow.

Possible reason:

- Diaphragm is chipped or polluted.

Suggestion:

- Clean probe with soapy water method.

Problem:

Probe signal is drifting.

Possible reason:

- Diaphragm can be dried out.
- Chip is scratched.

Suggestion:

- Soak probe for 10 minutes in saturated KCl solution (CSI PN 16349).
- Probe cannot be fixed.

11. Maintenance

Campbell Scientific recommends that the CS526 be cleaned and calibrated periodically to insure accurate readings.

The CS526 has no user-serviceable parts.

If the CS526 is not operating properly and requires return to Campbell Scientific, first obtain an RMA (returned material authorization) and fill out the Declaration of Hazardous Material and Decontamination form. This information is available at <http://www.campbellsci.com/repair>.

Cable can be damaged by abrasion, rodents, sharp objects, twisting, crimping or crushing and pulling. Take care during installation and use to avoid cable damage.

Contamination on the diaphragm may block the built-in reference electrode, so there will be no electrical contact between the electrode and the ISFET chip. This condition will cause the probe to not function. To prevent this, regular cleaning is recommended. Frequency of cleaning depends on the quality of the water. The best cleaning method is the “soapy water” method:

1. Place the tip of the probe in soapy water that is 50° to 60°C and soak for about 5 minutes (see Figure 11-1).
2. Rinse thoroughly with deionized water.
3. If necessary, lightly scrub the tip of the probe with a toothbrush to remove debris (see following caution).
4. Place the probe in saturated KCl solution (CSI pn 16349) at about 20°C. Keep probe in solution for about 30 minutes.

CAUTION

To prevent scratching the chip, a toothbrush should only be used after soaking in soapy water. Most scratches occur when hard particles are rubbed with a toothbrush on the chip surface. This can cause irreversible damage to the probe.

5. Rinse the probe.
6. Calibrate the probe (see Appendix A).

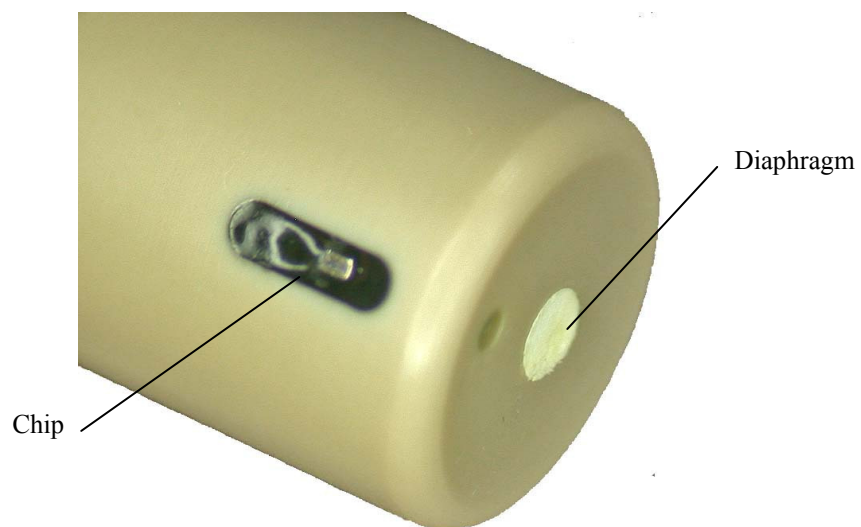


FIGURE 11-1. Tip of the CS526 Probe

Appendix A. Calibration

This calibration process uses 7 pH and 4 pH buffer solutions.

NOTE Protect the sensing chip from UV radiation during calibration. If calibrating in sun or fluorescent light, shield the sensing chip from UV by using dark containers for the buffer solutions.

Load the following example CRBasic program into the datalogger. Wire the CS526 to the datalogger according to the following diagram.

| Wire Color | Datalogger Connection |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Red (Caution! 5 Vdc Max!) | 5V |
| Black | G |
| White | Control Port (Tx) |
| Green | Control Port (Rx) |
| Clear | G |

Use the Numeric Display found in the datalogger software PC200W, PC400, LoggerNet, PConnect, or PConnectCE to monitor the measurement in real time.

1. Place the CS526 into a pH 7 buffer solution (CSI pn 25586).
2. Monitor the [pHmV] reading in the Numeric Display and allow it to stabilize.
3. Change the value in [pH7record] to -1.
4. Remove the CS526 from the pH7 buffer solution and rinse with de-ionized water.
5. **Blot** the CS526 dry with a soft cloth or paper towel.
6. Place the CS526 in a pH 4 buffer solution (CSI pn 25587).
7. Allow the [pHmV] reading to stabilize.
8. Change the value in [pH4record] to -1.
9. Change the value in [pHcal] to -1.
10. The CS526 is now ready to be placed in the solution to be measured.

Following is a simple example program to facilitate the two point calibration.

```
'CR1000 Series Datalogger
'Define Variables
Public pH, pHCount
Public PTemp, batt_volt
Public pH4record, pH4Count
Public pH7record, pH7Count
Public pHcal, pHmult1
Public pHoffset1

Dim rawstring As String * 20, pHDigit(2)

'Define Data Tables
DataTable (TenMin,1,-1)
    DataInterval (0,10,Min,10)
    Average (1,pH,FP2,False)
EndTable

'Main Program
BeginProg
    SerialOpen (Com1,2400,16,0,41)

    Scan (10,Sec,0,0)
        PanelTemp (PTemp,250)
        Battery (batt_volt)
        SerialOut (Com1,"1M1!"&CHR(13),"",0,0)
        SerialIn (rawstring,Com1,20,0,20)
        SplitStr (pHDigit(),rawstring,"String",2,0)
        pHCount = pHDigit(2)

        'Calibration
        If pH4record = -1 Then
            pH4Count = pHCount
            pH4record = 0
        EndIf

        If pH7record = -1 Then
            pH7Count = pHCount
            pH7record = 0
        EndIf

        If pHcal = -1 Then
            pHmult1 = 3/(pH7Count - pH4Count)
            pHoffset1 = 7 - pHmult1 * pH7Count
            pHcal = 0
        EndIf

        pH = pHmult1 * pHCount + pHoffset1

        CallTable TenMin
    NextScan
EndProg
```


Campbell Scientific Companies

Campbell Scientific, Inc. (CSI)

815 West 1800 North
Logan, Utah 84321
UNITED STATES
www.campbellsci.com • info@campbellsci.com

Campbell Scientific Africa Pty. Ltd. (CSAf)

PO Box 2450
Somerset West 7129
SOUTH AFRICA
www.csafrica.co.za • cleroux@csafrica.co.za

Campbell Scientific Australia Pty. Ltd. (CSA)

PO Box 444
Thuringowa Central
QLD 4812 AUSTRALIA
www.campbellsci.com.au • info@campbellsci.com.au

Campbell Scientific do Brazil Ltda. (CSB)

Rua Luisa Crapsi Orsi, 15 Butantã
CEP: 005543-000 São Paulo SP BRAZIL
www.campbellsci.com.br • suporte@campbellsci.com.br

Campbell Scientific Canada Corp. (CSC)

11564 - 149th Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5M 1W7
CANADA
www.campbellsci.ca • dataloggers@campbellsci.ca

Campbell Scientific Centro Caribe S.A. (CSCC)

300 N Cementerio, Edificio Breller
Santo Domingo, Heredia 40305
COSTA RICA
www.campbellsci.cc • info@campbellsci.cc

Campbell Scientific Ltd. (CSL)

Campbell Park
80 Hathern Road
Shepshed, Loughborough LE12 9GX
UNITED KINGDOM
www.campbellsci.co.uk • sales@campbellsci.co.uk

Campbell Scientific Ltd. (France)

3 Avenue de la Division Leclerc
92160 ANTONY
FRANCE
www.campbellsci.fr • info@campbellsci.fr

Campbell Scientific Spain, S. L.

Avda. Pompeu Fabra 7-9, local 1
08024 Barcelona
SPAIN
www.campbellsci.es • info@campbellsci.es

Please visit www.campbellsci.com to obtain contact information for your local US or International representative.